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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

DELIVERED IN THE SUPREME COURT

OF

BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS

JANUARY 22ND AND 23RD 1879.

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Beverly R. Douglas.

ENGRAVED BY
BUREAU OF ENGRAVING & PRINTING
U. S.
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS,

(A REPRESENTATIVE FROM VIRGINIA),

DELIVERED IN THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IN THE SENATE,

U.S., FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS, THIRD SESSION. 1878-1879

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF CONGRESS.

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1879.

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FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS, THIRD SESSION.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *February* 27, 1879.

Resolved by the House of Representatives (*the Senate concurring*), That there be printed twelve thousand copies of the memorial addresses delivered in the Senate and House of Representatives upon the life and character of the late BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, late a Representative from the State of Virginia; of which nine thousand shall be for the use of the House and three thousand for the use of the Senate.

Attest:

GEO. M. ADAMS, *Clerk*.

AN ACT providing for the engraving and printing of portraits to accompany memorial addresses on the late Representatives Leonard, Quinn, Welch, Williams, Douglas, Hartridge, and Schleicher.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be engraved and printed portraits of the late Representatives Leonard, Quinn, Welch, Williams, Douglas, Hartridge, and Schleicher, to accompany memorial addresses delivered in the Senate and House of Representatives in honor of the said deceased Representatives, and to defray the expenses thereof the necessary sum is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum to be immediately available.

Approved, March 3, 1879.

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ADDRESSES

ON THE

DEATH OF BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS,

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

JANUARY 7, 1879.

Mr. HUNTON. In the discharge of a melancholy duty I rise to announce the death of my friend and colleague, the late Hon. B. B. DOUGLAS, of Virginia, which took place in this city after a short illness on the 22d of December last. I give notice that on the 22d of January I shall submit for the action of the House appropriate resolutions. I now offer for adoption the following:

Resolved, That this House has heard with deep regret of the death of Hon. B. B. DOUGLAS, a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased this House do now adjourn.

The resolutions were adopted, and in accordance therewith the House adjourned.

JANUARY 22, 1879.

Mr. GOODE. Mr. Speaker, on the 7th of the present month my colleague [Mr. HUNTON] announced that he would to-day submit for the action of the House appropriate resolutions of respect to the memory of our late colleague, Hon. B. B. DOUGLAS. Mr. HUNTON

is unavoidably absent to-day, and by his request I offer the resolutions which I send to the desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That this House has heard with deep regret of the death of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved That the House do now suspend the consideration of all other business in order to pay appropriate respect to the memory of the lamented deceased.

Resolved, That in token of regret the members of this House do wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved,, That the Clerk of this House do communicate these resolutions to the Senate of the United States.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the House do now adjourn.

ADDRESS OF MR. GOODE, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: After the adjournment of the two Houses of Congress on Friday, the 20th of December, and while the members were busily engaged in making preparations to return to their families and their homes to enjoy the Christmas holiday, the friends of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, of Virginia, were startled by the announcement that he was lying at the National Hotel, in this city, in a very critical condition. Hastening to his bedside, his colleagues found him completely prostrated, and it was painfully apparent that his days upon earth were numbered and that he could not long survive. His family and friends were immediately summoned from Virginia by telegraph and arrived in this city on Saturday evening. If the faithful ministrations of a skillful physician, or the constant attention of sympathizing friends, or the tender nursing of a fond and affectionate

daughter could have availed to stay the hand of the destroyer, our deceased friend would have still lived; but, alas, at such a time how vain is the help of man! He lingered through the night, and at an early hour on Sunday morning, the 22d of December, while the city was still wrapped in repose, his spirit left its earthly tabernacle and ascended to the God who gave it. His mortal remains were placed in charge of a Congressional committee and conveyed to the family burial-place in the county of King William, in Virginia, where, on Monday afternoon, in the presence of his sorrowing and grief-stricken family and friends, they were committed to their final resting-place, and the solemn words, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," were pronounced over his grave by a venerable clergyman of the Episcopal church.

Beverly B. Douglas was, in many respects, a very remarkable man, and it is eminently proper that the Representatives of the people upon this floor should pause for a time in their customary avocations to review the history of his life, to recount his private virtues and public services, and to render a proper tribute of respect to his memory. He was born at Providence Forge, in New Kent County, Virginia, on the 21st of December, 1822. He received a liberal collegiate education at William and Mary College and the famous University of Edinburgh. He was graduated from the law school of Judge Beverly Tucker in 1843, and having been admitted to the bar in 1844 he practiced his profession for a short time in the county of New Kent and also in the city of Norfolk. Having married the daughter of Robin Pollard, a prominent citizen of King William, he located in that county in 1846 with as flattering prospects of success in life as any young man could reasonably desire. He rose rapidly to distinction in his profession, and soon occupied the front rank as an able practitioner and eloquent advocate. He was thoroughly versed in all the intricacies of the law, and enjoyed an enviable reputation as a safe, reliable counselor; but it was in the trial of causes

before the jury that his great talents shone most resplendently. His power over the juries in the circuit where he practiced was truly wonderful. He was engaged in many important and exciting trials, and however eminent the counsel associated with or arrayed against him, it was always conceded that his was the speech of the occasion. Such was his acknowledged ability and so extensive was his popularity that when the convention to remodel the constitution of the State was called in 1850 he was chosen with great unanimity a member of that body from the district composed of the counties of King William, Hanover, Spottsylvania, and Caroline. His colleagues were Francis W. Scott, Corbin Braxton, Eustace Conway, and Edward Morris. After the ratification by the people of the new constitution, in the formation of which he had borne a conspicuous part, he was elected a member of the senate of Virginia in 1852, and served continuously in that body until 1865.

Among his colleagues in the general assembly during that period were such men as A. H. H. Stuart, Robert A. Coghill, Joseph Christian, Henry W. Thomas, James Nelson, James F. Johnson, Alexander Rives, Robert Saunders, R. T. L. Beale, Frederick W. Coleman, George W. Randolph, John Robertson, Benjamin Rush Floyd, Hugh W. Sheffey, Allen T. Caperton, James L. Kemper, James Barbour, John Seddon, John B. Floyd, Muscoe R. H. Garnett, John C. Marye, and others not less prominent. Amid that galaxy of distinguished names, whose fame is not confined to the commonwealth of Virginia, but is coextensive with the limits of the American Union, it is no exaggeration to say that Beverly B. Douglas was regarded as a "bright, particular star." He was not only esteemed as a worthy associate of those great men who have reflected so much luster upon the State which gave them birth, but he was an acknowledged leader, as is evidenced by the fact that from 1853 to 1858 he served as chairman of the committee on finance in the senate, and as chairman of the committee on military affairs from 1861 to 1865—four memorable

years in the history of the commonwealth, during which she was swept throughout all her borders by the besom of destruction and every foot of her soil was trampled by the red, fiery hoof of war.

Although a member of the general assembly, and therefore exempt from military service in the field, Mr. DOUGLAS was not content to serve his State only in her legislative halls during that trying ordeal through which she was called to pass. He loved his native State and all her traditions. He had been reared in the State-rights school which taught him to believe that his paramount allegiance as a citizen was due to her. When, therefore, her soil was invaded by hostile armies, and Virginia called upon her sons to come to her defense, BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS responded to her call with a heart as unfaltering and a courage as lofty and unflinching as ever animated the breast of his illustrious progenitor in the Highlands of Scotland, whose crest was the lion's head, and whose family motto was "Do or die." He entered the army as first lieutenant of "Lee's Rangers," a company commanded by W. H. F. Lee. He became the captain of his company, and was afterward promoted to be major of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, in which capacity he served until the close of the war. He was an ardent, enthusiastic, and consistent Democrat, and for the last thirty years has rendered valuable and conspicuous service in all the political conflicts which have occurred in Virginia. He was chosen by a State convention of his party a Presidential elector on the ticket of Breckinridge and Lane in 1860; a delegate to the Democratic national convention which assembled in New York and nominated Seymour and Blair in 1868, and canvasser for the State at large in the celebrated campaign which resulted in the election of Gilbert C. Walker as governor of Virginia in 1869.

No man of his day excelled Mr. DOUGLAS in the discussion of political questions before the people. As a popular debater he was pre-eminently distinguished for his extensive, accurate information, his logical, compact argument, his keen, pungent wit, his scathing,

withering invective, and his burning, impassioned oratory. Whenever it was announced that DOUGLAS was to speak the people would come together in great crowds to hear him, and the many brilliant triumphs which he achieved on the hustings will long be remembered with pride and pleasure by his political friends and admirers. In November, 1874, Mr. DOUGLAS was elected from the first Congressional district of Virginia a member of the Forty-fourth Congress, and again in November, 1876, he was elected a member of the Forty-fifth Congress. He did not take an active part in the proceedings of the House, and very rarely participated in its debates. Hence it may not be inappropriate to remark that the members of this body who have only known him here can form no proper conception of the forensic powers and intellectual vigor which have rendered his name a household word in Virginia. The most valuable service which he rendered here was as chairman of the select committee of nine in the Forty-fourth Congress to investigate the affairs of the Freedman's Savings-Bank, to ascertain all matters relating to its management, the causes of its failure, and the names of the parties responsible therefor. He undertook this work with a determined purpose and prosecuted it with commendable industry. His report, submitted on the 19th of May, 1876, is a valuable contribution to the history of the times, showing clearly the origin and structure of the Freedman's Bank, how grossly it was mismanaged, how its funds were misapplied by the officers and agents, and how the poor freedman was deceived and betrayed by those to whom he confided the investment of his small, hard-earned savings.

I have thus, Mr. Speaker, given a very imperfect sketch of the life and public services of my departed colleague and friend. No man of his generation in Virginia had a more vigorous intellect, a more courageous temper, or a more generous disposition. That he had his faults and frailties it would be uncandid to deny. These were known to the public generally; but his intimate friends and associates

only knew how to appreciate properly those rare magnetic qualities of the heart which drew around him and attached to him so warmly all who came within the circle of his personal acquaintance. I know that I utter a sentiment which will touch a responsive chord in the breasts of those who knew him best when I say that as a citizen no man was more patriotic and public spirited; as a friend no man was ever more unselfish and true; as a husband and father no man was ever more tender and devoted. That mother commonwealth which he loved so well and upon whose bosom his mortal remains now calmly repose, will long mourn him as one of the noblest and brightest of her sons, and among her people the name of BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS will long be held in grateful and affectionate remembrance. It is not for me, Mr. Speaker, to teach the moral lesson to be drawn from this sad and afflictive bereavement. In the presence of such a solemn event I feel that silence would be more eloquent than words.

Since the organization of the Forty-fifth Congress seven members of the House of Representatives have been stricken down by the hand of death. As these notes of warning are ever and anon falling upon our ears it would be well for us all to pause in the midst of these busy and exciting scenes to reflect upon the shortness and uncertainty of human life, and to remember "what shadows we are and what shadows we pursue."

ADDRESS OF MR. POLLARD, OF MISSOURI.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I come to bury Cæsar, not to praise him.

Shakespeare in his day recognized the fact that in delivering the funeral orations of men their unrestricted praise was common. From his day to ours this practice has not changed. It is indeed a pleasant

task to recount the kind acts and good qualities of our departed friends, but duty to the living and justice to the dead require that a man's eulogist truthfully narrates his prominent characteristics; for no man in this life is all good—none perfect—and the biographer who only writes of his hero's merits is set down a failure and his works unread.

I come to bury Mr. DOUGLAS. "He was my friend, faithful and just to me." A friend was he indeed in all that the word means, although we never met till the Forty-fifth Congress assembled in October, 1877; but then, being on the same committee and hence often together, strong ties of friendship rapidly formed. He was warm-hearted, generous, hospitable, brilliant as a conversationalist, eloquent, ardent in his friendships, and eager to resent any affront offered his friends. He was an earnest advocate for what he believed to be right, and his errors were always toward the weak and erring. On our committee work, where so many cases came from poor broken-down patentees for an extension of their patents, he was always in sympathy with those who had been pecuniarily unfortunate in their inventions, and was always ready to bend the rigid rules of the committee to assist them out of their misfortunes, and on more than one occasion did he eloquently and vehemently urge his fellow-committeemen to but that once give the poor applicant the benefit of another term of his patent.

What nobler quality can a man possess—a mind constantly on the alert to alleviate the miseries of the unfortunate? Such qualities of the heart bring hosts of friends and admirers. Mr. DOUGLAS was loved and admired by all who knew him well.

He was a liberal-minded man, as are all men of education and travel.

It is he who thinks all Christendom is bounded by his horizon, that the whole boundless universe is inclosed within his immediate

neighborhood, who is your narrow-minded fellow who *knows* he is right and who cannot be convinced that he, his family, or party ever did or ever could do wrong. He it is who always strictly follows the bidding of his party leaders and never concedes any good by the opposition.

Such was not Mr. DOUGLAS. He was a staunch Democrat, but felt always that there were many good men in the Republican party, and that that party had done much good.

I remember the last conversation I had with him. It was in walking from his hotel to the Capitol but a few days before he died. In that conversation he referred to Virginia and the progress made in those localities where immigration had come since the war, and said the old State needed new blood; in fact, that whole conversation showed the breadth of his views and the liberality of his mind. The world needs more men of his ideas, and we should cultivate them.

Thinking men have come to the conclusion that a country has more to fear from the ignorance of its own people than the assaults of its outward foes; and to-day if our government has special ground to fear, it is because our citizens do not familiarize themselves with the people, their manners and customs, the habits, thoughts, and wishes of portions of our country remote from where they reside.

A man who, like Mr. DOUGLAS was, is a leader in his neighborhood, and who shapes its tone and feeling, is of more service in this direction than scores of those who follow. Mr. DOUGLAS had one other quality for which he was noted—truthfulness—and whatever faults a man may have, if he possess the jewel truth they sink into insignificance. If we can implicitly rely upon every word a man utters we instinctively admire him, and in this regard at least bid our boys pattern after him; but let a man be untruthful, and the world shrinks from him; and though he have the brain of a Webster, the

logic of a Calhoun, or the eloquence of a Clay, he is nothing; his life is a waste, and strive he never so hard, he cannot rise.

> Truth is in each flower,
> As well as in the solemnest things of God.
> Truth is the voice of nature and of time;
> Truth is the startling monitor within us.
> Naught is without it; it comes from the stars,
> The golden sun, and every breeze that blows.
> Truth! It is God, and God is everywhere.

Still, Mr. DOUGLAS had faults, and what man possessing such strong social qualities has not? Yet no man who knew him would for once think of him other than as a brilliant, noble, kind, generous man, thoroughly well-bred and hospitable, with a large, warm heart, always on the alert to do some good to poor, suffering humanity. *Requiescat in pace.*

ADDRESS OF MR. HOOKER, OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mr. SPEAKER: In rising to pay my tribute to our departed friend and brother, I have no studied phrases prepared for the occasion. I do so because it so chanced that the relations which existed between Mr. DOUGLAS and myself in the first Congress (the Forty-fourth) in which we both served brought me into intimate acquaintance and daily familiar intercourse with him.

It so chanced that I was appointed a member of the committee to investigate the Freedman's Bank, of which he was made the chairman, in the first session of the Forty-fourth Congress, to which my friend from Virginia [Mr. GOODE] has so appropriately alluded. On that committee it was my fortune to meet with Mr. DOUGLAS daily; to learn the temper and disposition of the man; to judge somewhat of the qualities alike of his head and heart. During the long months that we sat together in this Hall and served upon the same committee I learned to know him; I learned to love him.

He belonged to that great class of humanity that the Vicegerent of God on earth came to save, rather than the righteous. But he possessed so many of those great traits of character, intellectual and social, which make men distinguished and beloved, that no one could know him in all the intimate relations of friend and associate without feeling for him that profound respect which the people whom he represented and the citizens of Virginia throughout her borders always felt for him.

The history of the deceased has been alluded to by my distinguished friend, his colleague. It will be observed from the facts narrated by him that at the age of twenty-two years Mr. DOUGLAS had graduated at the law-school presided over by that great jurist and eminent lawyer, Beverly Tucker, of Virginia, whose brother, as a commentator and lecturer upon the laws of our land, takes position side by side with that great English jurist and eminent commentator who was the author of the horn-book of our profession.

When Mr. DOUGLAS had graduated at the early age of twenty-two his father's love for him and regard for his welfare led him to send the young man to that country from which his ancestors came. He went to Edinburgh, and, as he once told me himself, at the instance of his father's brother pursued the study of another profession, that of medicine. In that seat of learning which adorns the country of his ancestors, and which has given us some of the greatest men in the old country and our own, men who render illustrious institutions of learning by their great precepts and moral example, he finished that education which had been begun in his own land in the ancient institution of William and Mary, that had graduated among its alumni some of the most distinguished men as jurists and patriots that our country has ever known.

But he returned to his home to follow the calling and vocation for which nature and education had so eminently fitted him. Those of us who happened to be associated with him here in the investigation

of facts, in the illustration of truth, and in the development of great principles dear to the hearts of the people, know that in all his instincts of mind and soul he was pre-eminently qualified to adorn that profession which the greatest of English jurists had said embraces within its limits some of the noblest as also some of the meanest of mankind. A great New England lawyer, when he proposed to leave his provincial town to settle in the metropolis of Boston, was told that the profession was crowded, and that it would be difficult for a young man to obtain a position in it. His reply was, "There is always room at the top." Thus there was room for BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS.

He married in early life, and removed his residence from the county of New Kent and the city of Norfolk, where he had practiced his profession, to King William County, in which he was married. He was afterward elected to represent that county in the convention called for the purpose of reforming the constitution of Virginia. Subsequently he was elected to the senate of Virginia, where he served side by side with many of the noblest and most distinguished men of that State, whether viewed as lawyers or as statesmen; and though at times he was thus brought vividly into comparison with men of as much culture and thorough training as his own, he always stood the peer of any and all with whom he came in contact.

It is remembered of him in connection with his professional career that no man was more formidable in the statement of facts, no man more eloquent in his appeals to the jury. He possessed that great element which underlies success in every enterprise; he had the courage at all times and in every situation to seek the truth and to speak the truth.

He came of ancient Scotch lineage, and as I have said spent some years in Scotland after the completion of his education here. That land has produced men of stronger muscle and of greater brain than perhaps any other land under the sun. It has lent to England its

greatest statesman; it has lent to America its most distinguished professors of learning in every branch of science, literature and art. Mr Douglas seemed from this visit to the land of his ancestors to borrow something of the spirit and the fire and the devotion to truth which have ever belonged to that hardy race, hardy alike in muscle and in brain. It may be said of him as was said of one of his distinguished ancestors in the celebrated lament of the poet over that great Scotchman:

He is gone on the mountain,
He is lost to the forest,
Like a summer-dried fountain,
When our need was the sorest.
The font, reappearing,
From the rain-drops shall borrow,
But to us comes no cheering,
To Douglas no morrow.

The hand of the reaper
Takes the ears that are hoary,
But the voice of the weeper
Wails manhood in glory.
The autumn winds rushing
Waft the leaves that are searest,
But our flower was in flushing,
When blighting was nearest.

Fleet foot on the correi,
Sage counsel in cumber,
Red hand in the foray,
How sound is thy slumber!
Like the dew on the mountain,
Like the foam on the river,
Like the bubble on the fountain,
Thou art gone and forever!

Those who saw Douglas in the days of his ripe manhood, those who saw him when he left the pursuits of civil life to take the humble rank of a soldier, gradually advancing until he became the major of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, those who have seen him lead the onset on the field of battle, must have realized that he came of that hardy

race who peopled the heather-side whenever deeds of daring and noble venture were to be done.

But, sir, great as he may have been as a lawyer, sage as he may have been as a legislator, wise as he may have been as a Representative of his people, there were traits of his character lying apart from public view far more endearing to those who were intimately associated with him. Beverly B. Douglas may be forgotten as a lawyer, forgotten as a statesman, forgotten as a politician; but he will ever be remembered as one whose heart beat responsive to those warmer and dearer sentiments that gather round the fireside and make home that source of pleasure which it is to us all. As a neighbor and as a friend he endeared himself to those who knew him. As was well said in a letter addressed to one of his distinguished colleagues on this floor and which I saw yesterday, "he was generous to a fault; he would fight for a friend, ay! die for him, if it was necessary, and feel that he performed but the common duty which his heart prompted." It is in these tenderer relations of life that he will always live in the affections of the people who knew him best. We, his comrades and colleagues, standing reverently and yet affectionately on the verge of that sacred circle which embraces within it those who were bound to him by the ties of blood and kindred, may claim it as our privilege and our duty to mingle our tears with theirs in this tribute to those noble traits of character which make a man dear to his fellow-citizens and to his friends.

It was his misfortune some years ago to lose the partner of his life, she who had been the light of his life and the joy of his household. He left no male heir to transmit his name to future generations. For this great loss he was consoled alone by the lovely daughters who gathered around his hearth to supply to his home and his heart that which he had lost in the partner of his bosom. It was my fortune to witness his beautiful devotion, his loving tenderness, his sweet care exhibited toward these daughters of his household. When I

thus saw him I should have been something more or less than mortal if my heart had not warmed toward one who so tenderly felt and so readily yielded to their caresses and their wishes. It has been said of one like himself, and of his own name, who wept over his daughters when they came to cheer him:

Some feelings are to mortals given,
With less of earth in them than heaven.
And if there be a human tear
From passion's dross refined and clear,
A tear so limpid and so meek
It would not stain an angel's cheek,
'Tis that which a loving father sheds
Upon his duteous daughter's head!
And as the Douglas to his breast
His darling daughters closely pressed,
Such holy drops their tresses steeped,
Though 't was a hero's eye that weeped.

These peculiar traits of character endeared him to the people in the midst of whom he lived. To them he dedicated the freshness of his manhood; for he was pre-eminently unselfish. But there was one characteristic which above all others endeared him to those who knew him. I refer to his unswerving fidelity to truth, his conscientious discharge of duty, from which no temptations or passions could seduce him. His conduct in this respect, as exhibited in our investigations in this Hall, has often reminded me of that splendid tribute which the old Latin poet paid to one of the greatest of the ancient heroes:

Justum et tenacem propositi virum
Non civium ardor prava jubentium,
Non vultus instantis tyrrani
Mente quatit solida, neque Auster.

Amidst the passions and emotions of humanity, he strewed along the pathway of his life, simple as it was, great deeds, noble actions, generous and chivalrous sentiments, shadowed by but a single fault, clouded but by a single error, "as the giant oak of his own native forests strews its foliage in a kindly largess to the soil it grew on."

ADDRESS OF MR. WALKER, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: Again are we called upon to mourn the death of an honored member of this House. It should admonish all that "in the midst of life we are in death."

The exemplifications of this solemn truth have been fearfully frequent in this body during the past few weeks. Four of its members have gone down to the tomb, and the tomb never received within its somber walls four nobler or braver spirits. Each possessed all those high and commanding attributes of both head and heart which combine to form that noblest work of God, an honest man.

Him whose memory and merits we to-day commemorate by these public and appropriate proceedings I first met in Virginia in the gubernational campaign of 1869. The acquaintance then begun in the midst of the heat and excitement of that memorable struggle soon ripened into a warm and devoted friendship, which continued to the day of his death unabated and unmarred by a single estrangement. In that contest he acted a conspicuous part. Clearly comprehending the perils which environed his native State, he abandoned a lucrative business and the comforts of home, and entering the political arena, by his sturdy eloquence and unanswerable logic contributed much to the achievements of that grand triumph which restored civil government to his beloved State and placed her once more in harmony with the Federal Union. But his patriotic services to the commonwealth were not confined to this one great struggle. Years before, and in his early manhood, by the force and vigor of his intellect and his unswerving integrity of character and purpose, he rose rapidly in public confidence and esteem, until he came to be regarded as one of the foremost men of the State, and among the ablest debaters who ever graced the halls of the Virginia general assembly.

Brave and chivalrous in spirit, honest and independent in thought and action, as prompt to resent an insult as to forgive an injury, earnest in his convictions and sincere in his friendships, BEVERLY DOUGLAS commanded alike the confidence of his friends and the respect of his foes. Doubtless he had his faults, but who has them not? From the day when Adam was driven forth from the garden of Eden to the present moment the pages of recorded history, either sacred or profane, are illuminated with the name of but One of spotless humanity. And what a fitting rebuke that One—the despised Nazarine—administered to the Pharisees (a sect not yet extinct), who would stone a woman because she had sinned, when he said unto them:

> He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

There are faults of the head and there are faults of the heart. The former may sometimes be excused, while the latter may always be atoned. My late colleague possessed few faults of the head and none of the heart. His great heart ever beat responsive to all that was manly, generous, true, and sincere.

But, sir, I did not rise to pronounce a panegyric upon my deceased friend, but rather, in the briefest manner possible, to attest my own appreciation of his noble qualities and rare worth. A careful survey of these would suggest many useful lessons, but none more pointed and expressive, perhaps, than that—

> He lives most who feels most, acts the noblest, lives the best.

ADDRESS OF MR. SPRINGER, OF ILLINOIS.

My acquaintance with BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS began with the first session of the Forty-fourth Congress. Of his life previous to that time I know but little, and will leave to his colleagues from Virginia,

who have known him from his youth up, the task of speaking appropriately of his earlier years.

An examination of the RECORD of the Forty-fourth Congress, the first of which Mr. DOUGLAS was a member, will reveal the fact that he began his Congressional career with a zeal and industry and sustained himself in debate with an ability that gave assurance of a brilliant future. His constituents were not slow to recognize in him a faithful and able representative.

He was the chairman of a special committee for the investigation of the affairs of the Freedman's Bank, and conducted the matter with untiring industry and remarkable success.

He was an earnest advocate of retrenchment of public expenditures and of reform in the civil service of the country. On one occasion, in March, 1876, he moved an amendment to the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, reducing the salaries of members. In the course of the debate he said:

> In that section of the country which I in part represent, standing in the presence of a diminishing revenue and the paralyzed industries all over the country, with a constant decline in the expense of living, the people did demand, in a voice that must be heard here and elsewhere, that there should be a retrenchment in the expenditures of this government. My equanimity will not be at all disturbed by any taunts about my sincerity. I will let that question be tested by my acts. I will respond to the demand of my constituents and of the people of this country for retrenchment in this government, in every branch of it, the legislative as well as the others.

Those who knew Mr. DOUGLAS never for a moment doubted his sincerity. He was not a demagogue; he tried to deceive no one; he was always truthful and sincere. In advocating the reduction of his own salary he evinced his unselfish devotion to the interests of his constituents. He never thought of self, of his own interests or ambition, but moved forward fearlessly in the advocacy of what he believed to be the right. He had a delicate sense of honor; he did not impugn the motives of others, and he resented with indignation the slightest reflection upon himself or his friends. He was broad

and liberal in his views, and adhered with unmoved purpose to his principles. He was generous to a fault, kind to friends, loving to his wife during her life-time, and devoted to his children to the hour of his death.

Mr. Speaker, I will not speak of his frailties. *De mortuis nil nisi bonum;* yet he wronged no man but himself. Who of us will be able to claim as much in the last day?

In the death of BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS Virginia has lost a faithful Representative, those who knew him a firm friend, and his children a kind and loving father. Living, he "loved his fellow-men," and dead, his memory is cherished by them. May he rest in peace—

Let the lifeless body rest!
He is gone who was its guest.
Gone as travelers haste to leave
An inn, nor tarry until eve.

Traveler! In what realms afar,
In what planet, in what star,
In what vast aerial space,
Shines the light upon thy face?

In what gardens of delight
Rest thy weary feet to-night?

ADDRESS OF MR. DUNNELL, OF MINNESOTA.

Mr. SPEAKER: We are in session at this hour that we may appropriately honor the memory of a fellow-member of this House. At your request, sir, on the 22d day of last month, with other members, I accompanied the remains of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS from this city to their final resting-place in his native State. Mr. DOUGLAS was born in New Kent County, Virginia, December 21, 1822. King William County, where we saw him buried, was his home, and in it he passed the greater part of his life. Thither he went shortly after he had completed his academic, collegiate, and professional training,

and a few months subsequent to his admission to the bar in 1844, when he was twenty-two years of age.

He was carefully prepared for his chosen profession. The courses of study to which he was subjected for discipline in the institutions of learning in Virginia, and in the University of Edinburgh, in Scotland, had not failed in their offices. They had thoroughly fitted him for an honorable and useful life. The marked enthusiasm and ability of which he furnished early and abundant evidence very soon gave him a foremost place among the best lawyers in King William and the adjoining counties. Many honorable incidents and triumphs in his early and later career as a lawyer, in the scene of their occurrence, are there remembered and fondly cherished. They had their birth in a mind well cultured, in great personal integrity and honor, and in a heart full to overflowing of true kindness. They could not fail, as they did not, to make for him many and steadfast friends. They furnished a reason for the unmistakable regard and esteem in which he was held by his neighbors and friends. They overtopped faults and found expression in tears as his remains reached these friends and his home.

At the age of twenty-eight, Mr. DOUGLAS was a member of the constitutional convention of Virginia. At that early period in his life he was classed among the number concerning whom the commonwealth entertained large expectations. Immediately succeeding this public service in the constitutional convention, he commenced one of twelve years' duration in the senate of the State. He here held an honorable rank among his colleagues. He was a ready and forcible debater.

I refer more especially to the life of Mr. DOUGLAS between the years of 1844 and 1861, because in this time he founded and built up a reputation so honorable to himself, and to which his many friends now unite in pointing with just pride. It was during this period that he won for himself, by faithful labor in professional and public

life, the strong attachments which remained to him even to the grave. He had the personal characteristics which made him popular with the people. He was eminently generous. He will long live in the memory of many a humble person in King William County for some act of kindness which will have no record save in the faithful memory of those upon whom he bestowed his beneficent acts.

As the funeral procession was moving from the church to the grave, a colored man, of middle age, approached me and said: "Will not the coffin be opened? Mr. DOUGLAS was my friend; I want to see him once more." For what reason this poor citizen thus felt and spoke I cannot tell. He knew the reasons. Beyond doubt he had received some aid, some encouragement, some generous treatment from his lost friend.

Human history, Mr. Speaker, is always at fault because never complete. So the published life of an individual will be at fault, for it will leave out many an act of private beneficence, many a noble deed, many a great effort for the good of others. These acts may have no record save in the books kept by God himself.

Though the life of our friend may teach the truth that—

> 'T is wondrous difficult, when once beset,
> To struggle through the straits, and break th'
> Involving net;

yet it has been my pleasure to find in that life the fruits and achievements of a liberal mental culture, and especially the deeds wrought from the impulses of true kindness, for I remember that

> Kind hearts are more than coronets.

ADDRESS OF MR. PRIDEMORE, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: Solemn and imposing ceremonies cannot stay the hand of death, nor alleviate the distresses of the living. Yet the common consent of mankind justifies the erection of monuments to

the memory and the recording of the deeds of the illustrious dead. Deeply impressed with the sad rites accorded our distinguished and lately departed brothers, I was moved to see, as the mournful panorama passed before me, men whom the world calls great—grave and reverend Senators, foemen in the ambitious contests for political supremacy—moving down these aisles, arm in arm, like children. There, too, was the President of the United States, and distinguished judges who sit to pass in the last resort upon the most sacred rights of man, all bowed to the triumphs of the conquering hand of death, before whose victories their wisdom was turned into folly, their ambition into humiliation, and their fame into forgetfulness. A moment and they pass on, each to resume his journey in life—a journey that in its turn must end in death. Amid the solemnity of these scenes my eyes fell upon the vacant seat of my distinguished colleague, the late Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS. Memory recalled the men and the times when, more than a quarter of a century ago, he came first upon the theater of public life. At no period had Virginia presented to the world a greater array of her gifted sons or distinguished men. Major DOUGLAS at an early age contended with these his countrymen for the prize of political and forensic supremacy, and won for himself a name second to no man of the time.

Devoted to the history and traditions of his native land, he worshiped at the shrine of her past glory and rising greatness. While yet in the prime of life and advancing fortune war sounded her dread trump, and called to arms. Differing with many of his countrymen, but sharing the views of his own people he joined them in the conflict, and asserted amid the sulphuric flames of battle what he and they believed to be the constitutional rights and sacred honor of Virginia. He bore without spot or blemish the colors committed to his hands, and won from strife and death distinguished honors as a soldier. He had seen and served the old State in the pomp and power of her prosperity. He now followed her fortunes in the dangers and

perils of adversity; beheld her devastated fields, desolated homes, and fatherless children; ay, more, he saw the triumphs of war blot her from the galaxy of States, and himself and comrades disrobed of the sacred rights of citizenship; saw strangers giving laws and claiming dominion over the land of the Berkeleys, Henrys, and Randolphs. To this common fate he bowed in silence, and awaited—it may be impatiently—the hour of her redemption. The shackles at last cleft from his hands, his comrades and countrymen again crowned him with honors and clothed him with the powers of a Representative upon this floor.

But of his services here others can more fittingly speak. With a mind more than ordinarily gifted by nature, strengthened by a classical education, humorous and genial, he lent a charm to social life that made him the idol of the society in which he moved. Through his long and varied services as a citizen, soldier, and public man no blot or stain ever approached the sacred precincts of his fair name. May the sod rest lightly upon his bosom and Virginia ever hold his distinguished services in grateful remembrance; for of all the great and good now resting in her soil there sleeps not one who loved her more than DOUGLAS.

ADDRESS OF MR. CLARK, OF IOWA.

Mr. SPEAKER, I rise with some hesitation to speak of our deceased fellow-member, Hon. B. B. DOUGLAS, as I have not had that personal acquaintance which would admit of my speaking of him from a standpoint of acquaintanceship. Although I saw and knew Mr. DOUGLAS frequently upon the floor of this House, I was never brought in contact with him. I knew not of his sickness until I heard of his death.

Death has inexorably added many to his list from this House. Nothing has been so gratifying to the friends of each as the sincere regret for the loss and sympathy for the mourning relatives—as the impressive ceremonies observed by the House.

The entire absence of personal knowledge of Mr. DOUGLAS on my part will compel me to be very brief. Others will have spoken of his life and personal qualities at greater length. I can only speak of him as a member of this House, except as I have learned of him from others who have known and admired him in earlier years and to the time of his death; and I honor that great heart in human nature which, while it forgets the faults of the dead, remembers the virtues and all good qualities.

I am able to speak of our deceased member with more particularity because of the fact that I was one of the committee appointed by the Speaker of this House to escort the remains to their "last house." I did not feel at liberty to neglect that duty, notwithstanding many other duties.

The immediate friends of Mr. DOUGLAS spoke of him in the highest terms. At his old home his funeral received every evidence of the confidence, not to say devotion, of the community to his name. The love for him and admiration for his memory were manifest everywhere in his district. He was brilliant as a senator of the State and as a lawyer at the bar—called the Nestor of the bar—and his ability was recognized and acknowledged until death claimed him.

In the chilling excursion across the country to the home of Mr. DOUGLAS the committee appointed by the Speaker received every evidence of esteem and honor. No pains were spared to have us understand that we had come as the committee attending the remains of Mr. DOUGLAS and therefore as friends of his people. No higher evidence of the devotion to the deceased or reverence for his services and memory could have been shown than were during the visit of the committee.

At the time expected by the friends we met them at the village of Mr. DOUGLAS's residence and attended his remains to the church. The entire community seemed to be present to attest their respect for his memory. Impressively Mr. DOUGLAS was buried near his deceased wife, and near his old home, and there "may his ashes rest in peace."

I am told, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. DOUGLAS was brilliant and able, and regarded by his constituents as one of the most promising and really able men of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, if Mr. DOUGLAS had faults or frailties (and who is free of all our human kind) we cast the mantle of Christian charity over them after the example of the great Master. The immediate friends of the deceased member testify also to his goodness of heart and openness of hand. I commend his excellencies and "leave his short-comings to his Saviour."

Not much can be said to remove or alleviate the article of death. There are those who feel this affliction more than we, those who feel that "the silver cord is loosed, and the golden bowl broken." And now, when the night and shadow of death have settled upon our brother and the vail has been dropped between him and us, and when the "mortal has put on immortality," we commend to the guardian care of the all-wise Father the orphan little ones of the household. And, too, nothing which may be said by human tongue can lift the burden which the death of a father rests upon the hearts at the hearthstone. We can only recognize these visitations with that awe which knows no power of resistance.

ADDRESS OF MR. TUCKER, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. SPEAKER: The advent of a new member to this Hall is sometimes under circumstances which place him in a relation to public business not congenial to his tastes nor suited to the exhibition of his

peculiar powers. It is thus not possible for his associates to appreciate his merits or to estimate the grade of his capacity. Especially is this the case with one from the South, the relations of which to this government for many years have made Southern men much less familiar with the general policy of the administration of public affairs than are gentlemen from the North.

The members of this House from one cause or another have had no adequate opportunity to understand why the people of his district selected my late friend and colleague, Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, as eminently worthy to represent them in this House. It is therefore the duty, not only customary but imperative, of his friends to present in its proper light the character of Mr. DOUGLAS, and to delineate in truthful lines the noble qualities of his heart and the splendid endowments of his intellect as he was known to us; because he never found the appropriate occasion for manifesting them in the discussions upon this floor.

I knew him in boyhood, for we were schoolmates at the Richmond Academy, an institution well fitted to prepare a student for his collegiate career. Its teachers in the classics and in mathematics were eminent in talents and character, and possessed of large acquirements.

I remember him at that early period as distinguished for his talents as a debater—talents which shone so splendidly in his after life. He was educated liberally at William and Mary College and at Harvard. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and afterward the law in the school of William and Mary. He gave rich promise as a collegiate of future eminence.

He was a planter as well as a lawyer, and thus his professional life was developed according to a type so peculiar in Virginia and other parts of the South—that of the country lawyer.

This is a character which is now fast passing away, whom I would fain rescue from oblivion. Such a lawyer lived upon his farm, which

he cultivated, and attended the courts, without any strict devotion to business in his office. His library was not measured by the number but the weight of his books. He read and mastered Bracton, Coke, Hale, and Blackstone. His reports were few—my Lord Coke's, Salkeld, Saunders, Atkyns's, Equity Cases, and the like. He read history much, and studied the human heart profoundly. Amid the mountains, hills, valleys, forests, and fields about his country home, he meditated much upon natural law. The principles of right and justice implanted in the instincts of our nature and deducible from observation and experience, he evolved from his own native intuitions and reason. He wrought out by original thought what law ought to be, without learning much from the decisions of the judges, and thus in ninety-nine cases in a hundred he found what was the law in any special controversy. He was less technical than the city lawyer, skilled by ample practice and full libraries in the infinitely varied phases of social contacts and contracts. He was less scientific, but more philosophic; his views were less astute probably, but more broad and fundamental; and his generalizations less accurate, because deduced from a less number of particulars.

The law he learned was that whose "seat is the bosom of God and whose voice is the harmony of the world": *Nec enim alia lex Romæ, alia Athenis, alia nunc, alia posthac, sed et omnes gentes, et omni tempore, una lex et sempiterna et immutabile continebit.*

It was by this self-discipline, by this evolution of law as a system of real right, of absolute justice, in the political, social, and domestic relations of men, from the profound study of human nature and of the records of human history, that Patrick Henry was enabled, the country lawyer of Hanover, to write upon the fly-leaf of his Coke upon Littleton those resolutions of 1764, proposed in the Virginia house of burgesses, which challenged George III to remember Cæsar's fate and the bloody scaffold of Charles Stuart; to strike the key-note of religious emancipation when he pleaded for the people against the

parsons, and to forget the thunderbolt of revolution in the proclamation of his sublime dilemma of "Liberty or Death," to the colonies struggling in the military grasp of British despotism.

I do not doubt that John Marshall, the most illustrious of the Chief Justices of the United States, under the classic shades of his country seat at Oak Hill, framed the inexorable logic of his argument in the case of Jonathan Robbins, and constructed those canons of interpretation in that series of marvelous judgments, which laid the foundation of his fame as the greatest expounder of our Federal Constitution.

Time fails me to tell of the judges who were trained in this school of natural law for the science of jurisprudence. Pendleton and Wythe, Jefferson and Madison, John Taylor and Roane, and a host of others, are a galaxy of great men who were thoughtful jurists, though not case lawyers, taught by a profound knowledge of human nature and a large and varied experience in human affairs, to rear the temple of a sound jurisprudence, upon the deep foundations of natural justice and upon the law of God.

In my own life I have known scores of such men whose broad and comprehensive views of right and wrong, and whose acute and powerful minds thus trained, made them the equals and frequently the superiors of other lawyers, learned in cases and trained by the reading of law-books and reports without end.

Mr. Douglas was such a lawyer. Far less well read in reports than many of his cotemporaries, but with an acute and powerful mind, analytic in its processes and clear and intuitive in the detection of a fallacy; logical and cogent in reasoning, full of satire, sarcasm, and humor; overwhelming in invective, with literary taste and culture to add grace and ornament to his argument, he was the peer of any of his associates at the bar, and the superior of most of them in his genius as an advocate before the courts and the most intelligent juries of his country.

But there was another arena upon which he attained an excellence even higher than at the bar.

The hustings of Virginia from an early period have been the scene as well as the school for the highest powers of debate.

The county courts of Virginia, meeting every month, have been the occasions for the assembling of the people. On court-day the representatives of opposing political parties met upon the hustings to discuss public affairs. The people heard both sides, quietly and fairly.

The debaters divided time—opened, answered, replied, and rejoined. In the olden time the country people listened in dignified silence. The clap-trap of the demagogue was but little heeded. With sound sense and true eloquence, principles were expounded and facts were arrayed which carried the day. All the resources of reason, oratory, wit, humor, invective, and satire were called into play; misrepresentation was corrected by the adversary, detraction was subjected to censure, and fallacy in reasoning to exposure.

This institution of our society was a discipline to the gladiators and a school of instruction to the people. It begat fairness, candor, and sound reasoning in the debaters, and furnished the people with the materials of a just decision upon the great questions of the day. I may be excused for saying that one of the most memorable debates which authentic tradition has given us occurred upon the hustings at March court, 1799, of Charlotte County. The greatest orator of America made his last, and his successor to the confidence of his people made his first speech; and thus as the sun of Henry sank below the horizon in its evening splendor, that of his youthful friend rose into the firmament in its morning glory.

On the hustings Mr. Douglas had no superior, and few if any equals. He met foemen worthy of his steel, and I have in my possession a letter from one of the present judges of the court of appeals

of Virginia, so long a distinguished party rival and yet warm personal friend of Mr. DOUGLAS, in which he says with generous praise:

> I knew him and felt him in the full flush of his intellectual powers and transcendent genius. I have met him at the bar, in the senate, and on the hustings, and I can truly say, after no small experience, that he was the equal if not the superior in these different arenas of any man I ever heard speak.

Mr. DOUGLAS was for many years a member of the senate of Virginia. As a debater in that body he was, if not the first, in the very first line. A distinguished statesman of Virginia, and a political opponent then, has often said that he regarded him as able a man as his great namesake of Illinois (with whom the narrator had served in Congress), and a better speaker.

If I may venture to criticise Mr. DOUGLAS's intellect I would say that his powers were rather analytic than synthetic, more able to detect and expose error in an adversary than to build up a theory of his own, more destructive than constructive in its powers. He labored for the truth, which he loved, but he worked with more vigor to destroy falsehood, which he detested in the depths of his soul.

Having thus spoken of the mental power of my friend, it remains to speak of his character. That he had infirmities and faults I do not deny. Let him who has no beam in his own, seek to pluck the mote out of his brother's eye! Let charity and the grave hide them from our view; while his virtues bloom in fragrant memory about his tomb.

He was brave and generous—"A Douglas tender and true." "The Douglas in his hall" was hospitable, kind, and liberal to rich and poor. His nature was benevolent and charitable. Quick to resent a wrong, he was placable and easy to forgive if none was intended; and, when assured he had wronged another, his magnanimity in redressing it was prompt, noble, and conspicuous. Ardent and constant in his affections, he was tenderly devoted as a husband and father; a loyal, liberal, and unselfish friend that did not follow wealth and fame, nor leave the wretch to weep.

As a private citizen and neighbor he was just, kind, and public-spirited. His integrity and honor were beyond question. As a public man he was incorruptible, honest, sincere in his opinions, and broad and catholic in his views.

Can we wonder that his people loved such a man, and trusted him as their Representative, and clung to him with fond admiration of his genius and of the noble qualities of his nature? And will not the Representatives of this great Union join with us of Virginia in mourning the loss of so much of genius, ability, public honor, and private virtue to his family and friends, to his State, and to our common country?

Death has of late been busy in laying his icy hand upon our comrades in this Hall. Among them all, I scruple not to say that the grave has closed upon no one whose genius and noble characteristics merit more richly our sympathy and our honorable sorrow than my life-long friend and colleague, BEVERLY DOUGLAS. While we pay our tribute to his mental endowments and moral worth, let us reach out with the warmest sympathy of our hearts to his bereaved and orphan children, whose only solace will be found in human love and in the tender mercies of the God of the fatherless.

The question being taken on the resolutions submitted by Mr. GOODE, they were adopted unanimously; and then, in accordance with the last resolution (at four o'clock and five minutes p. m.), the House adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

JANUARY 23, 1879.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. GEORGE M. ADAMS, its clerk, announced that the House had passed resolutions in regard to the death of BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, late a member of the House from the State of Virginia.

Mr. JOHNSTON. A message has come from the House in regard to the death of Mr. DOUGLAS. I ask that the resolutions of the House lie on the table, subject to be called up by me hereafter.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. That course will be pursued.

FEBRUARY 27, 1879.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolutions of the House of Representatives concerning the death of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS will be reported.

The Secretary read as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

January 22, 1879.

Resolved, That this House has heard with deep regret of the death of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, a Representative from the State of Virginia.

Resolved, That the House do now suspend the consideration of all other business in order to pay appropriate respect to the memory of the lamented deceased.

Resolved, That in token of regret the members of this House do wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this House do communicate these resolutions to the Senate of the United States.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the House do now adjourn.

Mr. WITHERS. Mr. President, I offer the resolutions which I send to the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolutions will be read.

The Secretary read as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate receives with sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Virginia, and tenders to the family and kindred of the deceased the assurance of sympathy under their sad bereavement.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased the members and officers of the Senate will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to transmit to the family of Mr. DOUGLAS a certified copy of these resolutions.

ADDRESS OF MR. WITHERS, OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The continued and protracted indisposition of my colleague, the senior Senator from Virginia, has prevented earlier action on the House resolutions just reported, commemorative of the death of BEVERLY B. DOUGLAS, late Representative of the first Congressional district of Virginia. This delay, not more to be regretted than its cause, will necessitate a briefer tribute to the memory of Mr. DOUGLAS than would otherwise be accorded his distinguished merit and many virtues.

The suddenly fatal attack which on the morning of the 22d of

December last closed the mortal career of one so highly appreciated and honored by his fellow-citizens shocked the sensibilities of the public and added another to the list of departed statesmen, since so sadly increased by successive fatalities until the mortality among the members of the Forty-fifth Congress has become so unprecedented as to have excited universal comment, not indeed unmingled with a degree of suspicion which if unfounded was certainly not unnatural.

Stricken down in the full vigor of matured manhood by the unseen enemy which ever dogs our steps, prompt to seize on any unguarded avenue of approach to sap or storm the citadel of life, he passed away, unconscious of the presence of sorrowing friends or the devoted ministrations of an affectionate and idolized daughter, and was borne to his last earthly resting place in the sacred bosom of his native State, where the dark and somber pine forests, in never ending cadence, sigh their mournful requiem.

Beverly B. Douglas was born in New Kent County, Virginia, on the 21st day of December, 1822, and was called away on the 22d of December, 1878, having but just completed his fifty-sixth year. His career in life was neither uneventful nor unsuccessful. Descended in direct line from the historic family of the same name in Scotland, he was in many respects a worthy scion of that noble stock. His educational advantages were ample. His record in academy, college, and university, both in America and in Europe, gave assurance of a life of usefulness and distinction. A proficient in the technical lore of the two learned professions of medicine and law, he might have pursued either with every prospect of success. Influenced, doubtless, by his natural tastes and inclinations, he selected the latter, and with his characteristic energy and industry devoted him self assiduously to its practice, first in his native county of New Kent, and subsequently in King William. He speedily established his reputation as an accurate reasoner, a skilled debater, and a master of the science of law. His practice rapidly extended through the

counties adjacent, and few members of the profession were more generally known or more highly esteemed.

Many years had not passed ere his own inclination and the partiality of his fellow-citizens, who correctly appreciated his capacity for more valuable service in the public councils, called him into the political arena, and from that time to the day of his death he was a prominent figure in the forefront of Virginia politicians.

His first public service, I believe, was as a member of the constitutional convention of Virginia in 1850, and here, though confronted with many of the first men of Virginia, he was speedily recognized as a debater of more than ordinary power, and the close of the session found him the recognized leader of the Democratic party in his section of the State. In 1852 he was elected a member of the senate of Virginia and was successively re-elected by an admiring and confiding constituency for twelve consecutive years. In this arena his powers as a debater shone conspicuously and he was universally regarded by his political opponents as one of the most formidable antagonists to be encountered in the arena of debate.

His services on the hustings were more than usually arduous, conspicuous, and effective. As Congressional and State canvasser, and as Presidential elector, he constantly confronted, not only within his own district but throughout the State, the chosen champions of the old Whig party, who, neither deficient in ability nor unknown to fame, found in DOUGLAS "a foeman worthy of their steel," and the brightest lance among them all won few trophies from the hard-hitting and thoroughly-panoplied champion of the "unterrified Democracy." When Virginia was called on to furnish her quota of troops to assist in the subjugation of the seceding States, Mr. DOUGLAS, true to those doctrines of State sovereignty which he had ever advocated and sustained, felt no hesitation in dedicating his sword to the maintenance in the field of the principles he had ever inculcated in the council, and though exempt from military service by virtue of his

legislative position, he at once entered the army, and, with a courage which never failed and a faith which never faltered, did his *devoir* as became a "Douglas bold" on many a well-fought field.

Returning at the close of hostilities to his country home, he was at once recalled to public position at a time when the future of Virginia was shadowed by clouds and darkness and her most vital interests were threatened with destruction. In the extraordinary canvass of 1868, and the equally active contest of the succeeding year, Major Douglas figured conspicuously and contributed not a little to the final triumph of conservatism over radicalism. These services were recognized and rewarded, and in 1869 he was nominated and elected a member of the Forty-fourth Congress from the first district of Virginia, and with quiet assiduity at once devoted himself to the efficient discharge of the novel duties of his high position. The business capacity and discriminating intelligence with which, as chairman of the special committee, he conducted a most laborious and difficult investigation into the management and affairs of the Freedman's Bank, marked him at once as the possessor of energy, industry, and capacity. His report on the subject will ever stand a monument of patient research and fearless declaration.

He was re-elected without opposition to the Forty-fifth Congress, a conclusive evidence of his efficiency as a Representative and the appreciative confidence of his constituents. To this brief biographical sketch I shall add but little. The rapidly closing hours of the present Congress admonish us that extended eulogy, however consonant with our feelings and appropriate to his character, may not now be indulged.

Beverly Douglas was not without his foibles and his faults. Not often can the world look upon a character free from imperfections, nor will the generous and noble delight to dwell on these imperfections and neglect to do homage to those high and lofty virtues which, as in the character before us, illuminate with ennobling light the memories which yet linger with us.

A personal acquaintance extending through many years enables me truthfully to characterize Major DOUGLAS as a gentleman possessed of many of the highest attributes of manhood. Generous to a fault, brave, kind-hearted, hospitable, and, above all, truthful, he scorned a mean action, but was ever ready to minister to the wants of the friendless, and with ready charity to apologize for the weak and erring, where weakness and error was stained with no taint of dishonor. He was no fair-weather friend. Once his confidence was won, nothing but dishonor could break the ties which bound him to his fellow-man, and misfortune or adversity only intensified his feelings and stimulated his affections. With such an array of virtues, who will refuse to throw the mantle of charity over his one great weakness, and remember him through all time as the kind, liberal, brave, and noble gentleman, who was "tender and true," as became one of his noble lineage.

ADDRESS OF MR. THURMAN, OF OHIO.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It is with unfeigned embarrassment that I speak on this occasion. My embarrassment is caused by the fact that I not only had no personal acquaintance with the deceased, but I am not aware that I ever saw him; and I have learned, Mr. President, in the long years that I have lived, that there is nothing more dangerous and often unjust than the opinion we form of men we have never known. I am not a man of prejudices, and yet I confess that ten years ago I came into this Senate with very strong prejudices against men whom I afterward learned to esteem, if not to love; and I have come to the conclusion that no man is certain to form a correct opinion of another unless he has known him.

In the oldest church existing in Christendom it is the custom not to canonize any one until a hundred years have passed away, so that, without prejudice, without passion, a correct opinion of his character

may be formed. And yet, Mr. President, I doubt whether there is any opinion of a man's character so well founded as that which is formed by the men who know him intimately and well. Therefore it is that I speak with diffidence about our departed friend, and yet, although I never knew him personally, I knew him, as we all did, by reputation. Those who knew him well and who were his personal friends and his political associates have said to me that he was a man of singular ability and great acquirements—not only in one profession, but in two of the greatest professions in the world. Mr. President, he came of that race, the Scottish race, of whom it has been said that logic is their inheritance; and from what I have heard of him, he not only inherited the logic that belongs to that race, but also the eloquence that belongs to another race and by which such wonderful power is acquired over the human heart.

Mr. President, I never heard but one fault attributed to him, and that is a fault which is latterly the subject of much study and consideration. If that were his fault, he was more to be pitied and commiserated than condemned, for intemperance is a disease. We might quote other men distinguished in the annals of the world who were even more guilty than he, if guilt can be predicated of that misfortune. We might speak of Sheridan, of Fox, of Pitt. Ah, Mr. President, I can remember when the same charge was made against Clay and Webster and Wright. But no one mentions it now except to regret it.

Mr. President, I am well satisfied that a man so loved by those who knew him, so honored by the intelligent constituency among whom he lived, so distinguished in every public station he ever held, so much respected in every private circle, was a man whose memory it becomes us to cherish.

Address of Mr. Hereford, of West Virginia.

Mr. President: Again has the pale horse, mounted by his rider, Death, passed through the Halls and corridors of this Capitol of the nation and carried captive one of our brethren. Again and again of late has his terrible tramp resounded through these Halls, causing the thoughtful to stop for a while and ask themselves the question, Who next?

Neither rider nor horse ever tire. Night and day, over land and sea, ever since man became mortal, all through the lapse of countless ages have they been on their heartless errand.

We have for a while ceased from our labors for the living to commune with the dead, to pay the last sad tribute of respect to the late Beverly B. Douglas, one of the Representatives of the State of Virginia.

Of his life and character you have heard from the lips of one of his colleagues in this body [Senator Withers]. It was meet and proper that he should have done so, and well has the task been performed.

I had the pleasure of serving in the House of Representatives with him and knew him quite well. It was not difficult to know him well. He had no concealments. He was open, frank, and bold, in all of his dealings, both in public and private.

There was nothing mysterious about him. He could truthfully have said,

> My outward action doth demonstrate
> The native act and figure of my heart.

Mr. Douglas was a fine scholar, a good lawyer, an eloquent advocate, and a powerful debater, handling all the weapons with peculiar facility and power, whether of wit, humor, sarcasm, ridicule, logic, or the most brilliant flights of oratory. He was brave and chivalrous.

He had a great big heart throbbing with noble and generous impulses, which sometimes carried him too far for his own good. There are some men to whom we are involuntarily drawn the first time we meet them. Such a man was Mr. DOUGLAS.

He was often honored by his State, and as often acquitted himself with distinction. Mr. DOUGLAS was a man of strongly marked characteristics. When dealing with an adversary, his resistless will was as impetuous as the torrent; but with his friends, the hurricane of those passions was hushed as in peace, and breathed calmly and gently as a summer zephyr. A more devoted father I never knew—kind, considerate, and tender; the home is now cheerless, fatherless and motherless. But to him who believes in the Christian religion there is one consolation in the midst of these afflictions, that there is a time coming when "Old Time, the father of centuries and the tomb-builder of generations, will drop his broken scythe and break his glass, careen and fall, a giant in ruins." Then such believer can stand over the fallen giant and exultantly exclaim, "O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory?"

But we must close. Our friend—

> Serenely to his final rest has passed,
> While the soft memory of his virtues yet
> Lingers, like twilight hues when the bright sun has set.

Mr. WITHERS. Now, sir, I ask the adoption of the resolutions which I submitted.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia moves that the resolutions submitted by him be adopted.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. WITHERS. As a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, I move that the Senate do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; and (at six o'clock and twenty-two minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned.

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